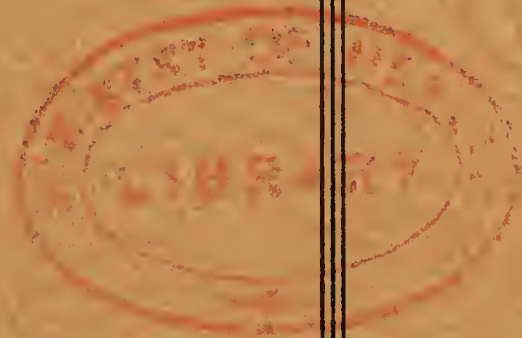


BOROUGH OF ROWLEY REGIS

C. H.
MIN OF HEALTH

E - 8 NOV 41

72



Annual Reports

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health
and School Medical Officer

AND THE

Chief Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1940



FRANK ASKER, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health
and School Medical Officer.

BOROUGH OF ROWLEY REGIS



Annual Reports

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health
and School Medical Officer

AND THE

Chief Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1940



FRANK ASKER, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health
and School Medical Officer.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30044443>

Public Health Department,
Municipal Buildings,
Old Hill, Staffs.

October, 1940.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Report as Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer for the year 1940. In addition to the routine work of the Department, a considerable amount of time was spent in connection with Civil Defence Casualty Services, and I should like to take this opportunity of thanking all the Civil Defence Volunteers who have given so generously of their time and energy.

Included in this Report is the Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, and I cannot let this opportunity pass without placing on record my appreciation of his work, especially in connection with Salvage. Detailed particulars of the quantities and values of salvaged material will be found in the Report, and the success of the Salvage Scheme is in no small measure due to his untiring endeavours coupled with his marked organising ability.

In conclusion, I take this opportunity of thanking all Members of the Council and Education Committee for their generous help and consideration, my colleagues for their help and co-operation, and my staff for their loyal assistance.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

FRANK ASKER,
Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health:—

FRANK ASKER, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:—

F. S. ANDERSON, M.B., Ch.B. (Edinburgh) (Resigned May, 1940).

M. S. MILLER, M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O., B.A., D.P.H. (Commenced 1st July, 1940. Resigned October, 1940).

Ophthalmic Surgeon (part-time):—

F. N. ROBERTS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (On Active Service).

A. M. DUFF, M.B., B.C.L., B.A.O. (Commenced 8th May, 1940).

Consulting Obstetric Specialist (part-time):—

W. E. BARNIE-ADSHEAD, M.B., F.R.C.S.

Aural Surgeon (part-time):—

C. L. WALKER, F.R.C.S.Ed.

Dental Officer:—

L. HOWARD THOMPSON, L.D.S.

Sanitary Inspector:—

ALEC LONGFELLOW, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., M.Inst.P.C., Sanitary Inspector's Certificate, Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate, Smoke Inspector's Certificate, Diploma of the Institute of Public Cleansing, Honours in Plumbing and Sanitary Science of the City and Guilds of London Institute.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors:—

W. WOOLDRIDGE, M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector's Certificate.

REGINALD HEATH, M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector's Certificate and Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate. (Commenced 19th February, 1940).

LEONARD COOMBES, M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector's Certificate and Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate.

GWILYM WILLIS, Sanitary Inspector's Certificate. (On Active Service).

Health Visitors (who are also School Nurses):—

N. E. CHILTON, S.R.N., C.M.B., Q.N. (On Active Service).

T. BELLAMY, S.R.N., C.M.B., H.V.C. (On Active Service).

A. E. HALLAM, S.R.N., C.M.B.

M. A. FELLOWS, S.R.N., C.M.B., H.V.C.

W. H. BENNETT, S.R.N., C.M.B., H.V.C.

I. M. SALT, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.C. (Resigned 31st March, 1940).

A. M. GILLIVER, S.R.N. (Commenced 17th June, 1940).

Municipal Midwives:—

- A. E. BIGGS, S.R.N., C.M.B.
- M. HAYWARD, S.R.N., C.M.B.
- F. NORWOOD, C.M.B.
- S. E. RANN, C.M.B.
- M. A. ROSE, C.M.B.
- J. M. STALEY, S.R.N., C.M.B., Q.N.
- B. M. WEBBER, S.R.N., C.M.B.
- S. F. WHITTALL, C.M.B.
- H. M. GREPE, C.M.B. (Commenced 1st November, 1940).

Clerks:—

- | | | |
|---------------|---|---|
| M. E. HARRIS | } | Whole-time jointly with School
Medical Department. |
| C. BACHE | | |
| E. D. PRIEST | | |
| V. DUNN | | |
| D. MORGAN | } | Whole-time Sanitary
Inspector's Clerks. |
| D. M. WEBSTER | | |

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.
VITAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,828
Population, Census 1931	...	...	...	...	...	...	41,235
Estimated mid-year, 1940	...	...	...	...	...	...	44,510
Number of houses inhabited (end of 1940) according to Rate Books	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,065
Rateable Value at December, 1940	...	...	...	...	...	...	£174,369
Sum represented by a penny rate at 31st March, 1940, gross	...	...	...	...	...	...	£659 17s. 6d.
Estimated at 31st December, 1940, gross	...	...	...	...	...	...	£670 10s. 0d.
Live Births: Legitimate	...	...	Total	M.	F.		
	...	...	873	444	429		
Illegitimate	...	...	5	3	2		
Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...					19.73
Stillbirths	...	...	Total	M.	F.		
	...	...	30	16	14		
Rate per 1,000 total (live and stillbirths)	...	...					34.17
Deaths	...	...	533	303	230		
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...					11.97

C.F.1.25.—The crude death rate of the area should be multiplied by this factor in order to make it comparable, from a mortality point of view, with the crude death rate of the country as a whole or with the mortality of any other local area, the crude death rate of which should be similarly modified with its own factor for the purpose.

Deaths from puerperal causes (heading 29 and 30 of the Registrar General's short list):—

	Total	Rate per 1,000 total (live and stillbirths)
No. 29 Puerperal and Post-Abortion Sepsis	1	1.14
No. 30 Other Maternal Causes ...	1	1.14
Total	2	2.28

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	60.36
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	60.36
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	—

Deaths from—

Measles (all ages)	—
Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	9
Diphtheria	5
Scarlet Fever	—

BIRTHS.

It will be seen from the above statement that the birth-rate for Rowley Regis in 1940 was 19.73 per 1,000 population as compared with 14.6 for England and Wales.

858 births were notified; 4 by a doctor, 778 by midwives, and 76 hospital notifications. The majority of the births, it will be seen, is notified and attended by midwives.

REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S SHORT LIST OF CAUSES OF
DEATH IN THIS AREA.

CAUSE OF DEATH	M.	F.	Total
ALL CAUSES	303	230	533
Typhoid and Parat. Fevers	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	2	—	2
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	1	1
Diphtheria	5	—	5
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	10	6	16
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	1	2
Syphilitic Disease	3	—	3
Influenza	7	1	8
Measles	—	—	—
Ac. polio-myel. and polio-enceph.	—	—	—
Ac. Inf. enceph.	—	2	2
Cancer of b. cav. and oesoph	4	—	4
Cancer of Uterus	—	2	2
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	7	3	10
Cancer of Breast	—	8	8
Cancer of all other sites... ..	22	13	35
Diabetes	1	3	4
Intra-cran. vasc. lesions	22	18	40
Heart disease	52	67	119
Other diseases of circulatory system	6	—	6
Bronchitis	44	29	73
Pneumonia	22	11	33
Other respiratory diseases	4	2	6
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	5	—	5
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	4	5	9
Appendicitis	2	—	2
Other Digestive Diseases	10	8	18
Nephritis	6	6	12
Puer. and Post-abortion Sepsis	—	1	1
Other maternal causes	—	1	1
Premature Birth	7	8	15
Con. mal. birth inj. infant. dis.	7	9	16
Suicide	2	1	3
Road Traffic Accidents	3	—	3
Other violent causes	17	7	24
All other causes	28	17	45
Deaths of Infants under 1 year:—			
Total	27	26	53
Legitimate	27	26	53
Illegitimate	—	—	—

GENERAL REMARKS ON THE DEATH RATE.

The death rate was 11.97 compared with 10.07 last year. "Heart Disease" was still the largest single cause of death, accounting for 119 deaths.

The next most important cause of death was Bronchitis, which caused 73 deaths.

Pneumonia accounted for 33 deaths (18 in 1939) and Cancer 59 deaths (58 in 1939).

8 deaths were caused by influenza as compared with 2 in 1939.

Tuberculosis of the respiratory system caused 16 deaths. This subject is discussed later in the report dealing with infectious diseases.

40 deaths occurred from Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.

ABNORMAL SICKNESS OR MORTALITY.

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year, nor have the occupations or environment of the district had any demonstrably detrimental effect upon the public health.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

It is not necessary to deal with these matters in this report as they remain unchanged from the previous year.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

(a) Maternal Mortality.—There were 2 deaths classified under this heading in 1940.

(b) Infantile Mortality.—The death rate of infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 births was:—

Legitimate	...	...	...	...	58.37
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—
Total	...	...	...	...	58.37

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

During 1940, 1 case of Puerperal Pyrexia was notified which was admitted to Hospital for treatment. The case rates per 1,000 are best expressed in relation to the number of births registered rather than to the population, and when calculated on this basis, they are given in the annexed table. The rates are based on the total (i.e., live and still) births registered:—

Rowley Regis	...	...	...	1.10
England and Wales	...	...	...	11.96

MIDWIVES.

As in the previous year, supervision of all the midwives practising in the area was undertaken by the Deputy Medical Officer. Routine visits of inspection were carried out, the bags and instruments examined and their registers and records inspected. During the year 12 midwives gave notice of intention to practise in the Borough.

A total number of 791 cases was attended by midwives—673 as midwives and 118 as maternity nurses.

Medical aid was summoned in 242 cases.

HEALTH VISITING.

The Local Authority maintains a staff of 6 combined Health Visitors and School Nurses. Each Health Visitor is allotted a district.

The number of visits paid by the Health Visitors is shown in the following table.

	Visits.	Re-visits.	Total.
Expectant Mothers	27	29	56
Live Births	841	1505	2346
Children 1 to 5 years... ..	—	3955	3955
Still Births	—	—	—
Infant Deaths	—	—	—
Maternal Deaths	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	—	2
Polio-myelitis	1	—	1
Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases	—	—	—
Tuberculosis : County Council	52	385	437
Local Authority	6	31	37
Measles	113	—	113
Whooping Cough	56	—	56
Boarded-out Children ; County Council	1	1	2
Miscellaneous	1488	161	1649
	2588	6067	8655

Children Act, 1908.

There were no children on the register during 1940. The Medical Officer of Health is the person designated to receive the necessary notices, and the Health Visitors visit such children as come under the statute.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

The number of centres provided and maintained by the Council is four, with six sessions weekly. The total number of attendances during the year was 14,590. Two nurses and a doctor are in attendance and are assisted by voluntary helpers. We are greatly indebted to those ladies who give of their time and help at the centres; their services are much appreciated by the mothers and the staff.

PRE-NATAL CLINICS.

Three Pre-Natal Clinics are provided and maintained by the Council, and during the year 43 sessions were held with 386 cases in attendance and 635 attendances were made.

The advice given at the Clinics is largely of an educational nature and stresses the importance of general hygiene, suitable diet, and healthy mental attitude. Close co-operation is maintained with the medical practitioners and the midwives. Where necessary cases are referred to the Consulting Obstetrician.

Facilities exist for providing dental treatment, extra nourishment, etc.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1.—(1) WATER.

As in the previous report, the water supply, which is adequate and satisfactory, is supplied by the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company.

(2) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

All new work is supervised by the Building Inspector, who works under the Borough Surveyor. General repairs under the Public Health Act and Housing Acts are done through the Sanitary Department.

Drainage work carried out through the Sanitary Department is as follows:—

No. of yards of New Drains laid	...	...	...	596
New Sewer Connections	...	...	...	2
New Gullies fixed	...	...	...	11
New Intercepting Traps fixed	...	...	...	3
New Ventilation Pipes fixed	...	...	...	6
New Inspection Chambers fixed	...	...	...	21
No. of Drains Unstopped	...	...	...	63
Drains Tested by the Council	..	...	...	2
New Urinal Stalls	...	...	...	2

2.— RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Several complaints were received during the year and satisfactorily dealt with.

3.—(1) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

All existing privies are inaccessible to the Sewer.

The W.C., Ashpit and Cesspool accommodation in the Borough at the end of the year, December, 1940, is as follows:—

Wards.	No. of W.C's.	No. of Bins	No. of Privies.	No. of Pails.	No. of Cess-pools
Cradley Heath ...	2778	2735	4	15	1
Old Hill ...	2821	2856	3	8	1
Blackheath ...	1885	2098	—	—	—
Rowley Regis ...	3309	3650	16	27	12
Tividale ...	2149	2012	21	23	4
Totals ...	12942	13351	44	73	18

(2) PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The cesspool emptyings are carried out by the Surveyor's Department, with the gully emptying machine in conjunction with and at the request of the Sanitary Department. They are situated as follows:—

CESSPOOLS.

Premises:

“ Briardene,” Oakham.
“ Beulah,” Oakham.
“ Braemar,” Oakham.
“ Brookfield,” Oakham.
“ Golf Club,” Oakham.
Wellfield House, Oakham.
“ Del-garda,” New House, Darby’s Hill.
Marler Bros., Perry’s Lake, Rowley Regis.
“ The Dell,” Moor Lane, Rowley Regis.
“ Lyndale,” Moor Lane, Rowley Regis.
Smart, Moor Lane, Rowley Regis.
Diamond Cottages, Gadds Green, Rowley Regis.
Two cottages, Richards Quarries, Gadds Green.
The Spiers, New Birmingham to Wolverhampton Road,
Tividale.
“ Pontymoile,” Birmingham to Wolverhampton New Road.
“ Windymoor,” Darby’s Hill, Oakham.
Cricket Field, Old Hill.
Kendrick & Mole, Corngreaves Road, Cradley Heath.

DISPOSAL.

During the year 1940, tipping was centralised at Waterfall Lane, so as to facilitate the work of salvage. Only $43\frac{1}{2}$ loads were tipped at Cradley Heath and 5 loads tipped at Warrens Hall.

By the end of the year, Waterfall Lane was rapidly nearing completion and it was necessary for the Council to obtain another site. Consequently a farm, brick works and marlhole were purchased at Powke Lane, Old Hill.

CLEANSING SERVICE. HOUSE AND TRADE REFUSE.

Table showing Costs for the Year ending 31st March, 1940.

Item	Particulars.	COLLECTION.		DISPOSAL.		COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.	
		(a) including (b) excluding loan charges, depreciation, revenue contributions to capital outlay and rents.	(a) including (b) excluding loan charges, depreciation, revenue contributions to capital outlay and rents.	(a) including (b) excluding loan charges, depreciation, revenue contributions to capital outlay and rents.	(a) including (b) excluding loan charges, depreciation, revenue contributions to capital outlay and rents.		
(1)	(2)	(A) (3)	(B) (4)	(A) (5)	(B) (6)	(A) (7)	(B) (8)
	REVENUE ACCOUNT.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
1.	Gross Expenditure ...	4363	0 0	3973	0 0	5292	0 0
2.	Gross Income ...	29	0 0	29	0 0	57	0 0
3.	Net Cost ...	4334	0 0	3944	0 0	5235	0 0
	UNIT COSTS.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
4.	Gross Expenditure per ton ...	6	4 ½	5	9 ½	7	8 1
5.	Gross Income per ton ...				½	1	1
6.	Net Cost per ton ...	6	3 ½	5	9	7	7 0
7.	Net Cost per 1,000 population ...	96	15 7 ½	88	1 6	116	18 1
8.	Net costs, per 1,000 houses or premises from which refuse is collected ...	361	15 5	329	4 3 ¾	436	19 7
							402 11 9

- 1.—Total refuse collected in tons—13,770 tons.
- 2.—Population: Middle of 1940 (estimated)—44,510.
- 3.—Area (Statute acres)—3,828.
- 4.—Weight (in cwts.) per 1,000 population per day (365 days to year)—16.84.
- 5.—Number of houses and premises—11,980.
- 6.—Method of Collection:

Mechanical Vehicles	Percentage of Refuse collected
4	100%

- 7.—Method of Disposal:—

Controlled Tipping.

- 8.—Average length of Haul—1½ miles.
- 9.—No. of employees, other than clerical:—
Collection—19. Disposal—4.

SALVAGE.

This work actually commenced in February, and I herewith give the grand total of sales which have taken place and credited by us on our returns for the eleven months ending December, 1940:

Paper: 297 tons 13 cwts. 2 qrs. 10 lbs.

Bones: 5 tons 17 cwts. 25 lbs.

Rags: 8 tons 15 cwts.

Ferrous Metals: 75 tons 7 cwts. 2 qrs.

Non-Ferrous Metals: 1 ton 15 cwts. 18 lbs.

Bottles and Jars: 49,487 pieces.

Broken Glass: 5 tons 6 cwts. 1 qr.

Estimated total value of sales ... £1,644 1s. 6d.

During the year, a Women's Salvage Committee was formed and several meetings took place under the able guidance of Mrs. Tibbetts, as Chairman, and Miss N. Lench, as Honorary Secretary. The area was canvassed twice by a large number of Voluntary workers and splendid results were obtained.

I should like to thank all the ladies who have supported this movement and particularly the Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Mayoress, who all went to endless trouble in the matter. Also the Chairman of the Health Committee, who has been most enthusiastic in all our endeavours.

PIG CLUB.

In June of this year, under the Presidency of Councillor Hancock, Chairman of the Health Committee, and the Chief Sanitary Inspector acting as advisor, the employees of the Sanitary Department commenced a Pig Club, and financed it in 1/- shares, the total for each member not to exceed £1, and the Club to be organised on a profit-sharing basis.

To inaugurate the scheme several gifts of pigs were made to the Club, and the remainder purchased out of the funds, the total number kept being 25, and on behalf of the Club I am asked to record thanks to the following lady and gentlemen who so kindly contributed:—

Councillor Miss Lench ...	...	2 pigs.
Alderman Willis ...	...	1 pig.
Messrs. T. B. Wellings, Old Hill		2 pigs.
Councillor Mark Stevens ...	...	1 pig and donation.
Arthur Webster, Esq. ...	...	1 pig.
T. Kite ...	...	1 pig.
E. Kite ...	...	1 pig.
Trevor Mucklow ...	...	Gift of materials.

(3) SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA.

A.—THE NUMBER AND NATURE OF INSPECTIONS MADE DURING THE YEAR 1940.

HOUSES.

Recorded under the Housing Regulations:—

Houses where no defects were found to exist ...	—
Houses where defects were found to exist ...	—
Houses dangerous or injurious as to be unfit ...	—

Under Public Health Acts:—

Houses where no defects were found to exist ...	67
Houses where defects were found to exist ...	332
	— 399

TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSES inspected during

the year 1940	399
----------------------	-----

RE-VISITS to houses for work in progress ... 1787

SYNOPSIS OF OTHER INSPECTIONS MADE.

Nature	No of Individual premises visited	Total Number of Inspections made
Shops Inspected under Shops Acts ...	4	11
Verminous Premises	127	180
Drains	245	361
Urinals	9	9
Slaughterhouses	19	703
Offensive Trades	1	6
Foodstores	374	1106
Stables and Animals kept	11	17
Piggeries	278	305
Factories	128	148
Bakehouses	26	66
Cowsheds	27	71
Dairies	21	54
Manure Pits	3	3
Van Dwellings	25	115
Carbide Stores	11	11
Petroleum Stores	118	143
Smoke	14	14
Infectious Disease	272	473
Cinemas	4	8
Complaints investigated	122	122
Defective Bins	292	524
Rag and Bone Merchants	—	—
Water Courses	45	45
Canal Boats	2	2
Ice Cream Stores	5	9

INTERVIEWS WITH OWNERS ... 623

Nature of Defects or Nuisances discovered during 1940.	No. of Defects found	No. of Defects remedied by		Total No of Defects remedied
		Informal action	Formal action	
DWELLING HOUSES:				
Defective roofs	34	73	6	79
Defective roofs of verandah and coalhouse	5	19	1	20
Defective chimneys	5	151	15	166
Defective brickwork and joints of walls, etc.	9	128	12	140
Defective and dangerous walls	2	8	2	10
Defective or no spouting	158	173	9	182
Obstructed spouting	—	3	—	3
External painting	14	83	6	89
Defective yard paving	13	69	12	91
Insanitary structures	9	18	2	20
Accumulations	11	13	1	14
Defective dust bins	324	334	2	336
Insufficient and insanitary ashpits ...	—	11	—	11
Dampness	18	90	—	90
Dirty dwelling houses	10	8	—	8
Dirty living rooms	15	99	1	100
Dirty bedrooms	30	117	2	119
Dirty staircases	8	59	3	62
Dirty pantries and cellars	4	21	1	22
Dirty floors	—	—	—	—
Defective staircases	5	24	9	33
Defective or no hand rail	4	51	8	59
Defective floors	16	117	4	121
Defective and dangerous ceilings	9	10	1	11
Defective ceiling plaster	15	97	5	102
Defective wall plaster	42	202	15	217
Defective doors, casements and steps ...	20	158	17	175
Defective firegrate, brickwork and mantles	21	87	3	90
Defective or no skirting boards	—	52	20	72
Defective window frames and fasteners ...	42	264	19	283
Defective sash cords	49	170	9	179
Fixed windows	4	45	14	59
Insufficient light and vent. in dwelling- house	1	8	—	8
Insufficient light and vent. in pantry ...	—	11	1	12

Nature of Defects or Nuisances discovered during 1940.	No. of Defects found	No. of Defects remedied by		Total No. of Defects remedied
		Informal action	Formal action	
Insufficient light and vent. on staircase ...	1	—	—	—
Defective pantry sills and steps	1	1	—	1
No pantry accommodation	—	—	1	1
Water or sewage in cellar	1	4	—	4
Defective or no cellar grating	—	4	—	4
Insufficient coalhouse accommodation ...	2	32	5	37
Verminous houses	53	50	—	50
No washing facilities	2	—	—	—
Owners, M.O.H. name, etc., not on rent book	—	24	—	24
Notice of intention to carry out repairs after 7 days	—	—	1	1
Defective cupboards	—	1	—	1
No damp-proof course	—	2	—	2
Insufficient washing facilities	—	1	1	2
WASHHOUSE:				
Defective roofs	21	83	5	98
Defective chimneys	3	65	4	69
Defective brickwork and joints in walls ...	10	78	4	82
Defective and dangerous walls	2	24	3	27
Defective or no spouting	13	112	4	116
Dilapidated and dangerous wash-house ...	3	6	1	7
Dirty wash-house	11	17	—	17
Defective floors	2	74	4	78
Defective ceiling plaster	—	13	—	13
Defective wall plaster	—	5	—	5
Defective doors, door casements and steps	12	89	10	99
Defective firegrate, brickwork, etc. ...	—	27	—	27
Defective window frames	9	48	1	49
Defective sash cords	—	4	—	4
Fixed windows	—	3	—	3
Insufficient light and ventilation	—	5	—	5
No washing boiler	1	1	1	2
Defective boiler	9	12	1	13
Defective boiler fireplaces	5	37	1	38
Defective boiler brickwork	5	25	1	26

Nature of Defects or Nuisances discovered during 1940.	No. of Defects found	No. of Defects remedied by		Total No. of Defects remedied
		Informal action	Formal action	
Defective or obstructed sink waste pipe ...	3	13	—	13
Insanitary sink	4	36	—	—
Insufficient sink accommodation	1	—	—	—
Insufficient water supply	5	9	—	9
Insufficient wash-house accommodation ...	1	6	—	6
Coal kept in wash-house	—	—	—	—
Insanitary baking ovens	2	58	—	58
Foul and defective soft water cisterns ...	—	32	—	32
Burst service pipes	11	12	—	12
Defective sink sleeper walls	—	4	—	4

DRAINS AND WATER CLOSETS:

Defective roof of W.C.'s and ashbin shelters	14	40	7	47
Defective brickwork and joints	6	30	2	32
Defective and dangerous walls	4	11	—	11
Defective or no spouting	1	11	1	12
Defective soil and ventilation pipes ...	2	8	—	8
Dilapidated water closets	7	27	1	28
Dirty water closets and drains	—	6	—	6
Defective floors	3	16	1	17
Defective ceiling plaster	—	7	—	7
Defective doors, cases and steps	13	38	6	44
Defective flushing apparatus	45	47	—	47
Defective water closet pans and joints ...	40	47	—	47
Obstructed water closets	6	5	—	5
Defective or no seats	9	24	—	24
Burst service pipes	34	28	—	28
Insufficient water supply	6	2	—	2
Insufficient drainage	8	7	—	7
Insufficient W.C. accommodation ...	11	42	—	42
Defective drains	10	10	1	11
Obstructed drains	37	32	4	36
Defective gullies and gully gratings ...	—	2	—	2
Broken inspection chamber covers ...	5	5	—	5
Foul privies and pails	1	—	—	—

Nature of Defects or Nuisances discovered during 1940.	No. of Defects found	No. of Defects remedied by		Total No. of Defects remedied
		Informal action	Formal action	
Insanitary cesspools	—	1	—	1
Defective pails	2	—	—	—
Insufficient paving	4	45	—	45

FACTORIES:

Insufficient urinal accommodation ...	3	2	—	2
Insufficient W.C. accommodation ...	14	4	—	4
Insufficient water supply	—	1	—	1
Verminous	1	1	—	1
Dirty water closets—men	1	1	—	1
Defective W.C. roofs (men)	1	1	—	1
Defective W.C. door fastenings (men) ...	6	—	—	—
Insufficient screening (men)	6	—	—	—
No ventilation space between factory and W.C.'s (men)	—	1	—	1
No washing facilities for men	—	2	—	2
Dust and smoke nuisance	1	2	—	2
Doors opening inwards	—	14	—	14
Water supply not labelled “ Drinking water ”	1	3	—	—
No drinking receptacle	2	—	—	—
Lack of iron escape staircase	—	3	—	3
Insanitary chain hearths	5	38	—	38
Defective and insufficient drainage ...	2	1	—	1
Defective chimneys and roofs	1	—	—	—

PIGGERIES:

Insufficient drainage	—	3	—	3
Filthy	25	24	—	24
Dilapidated	—	2	—	2
Defective roof	2	1	—	1
Defective walls	2	—	—	—
Defective floors	4	2	—	2
Accumulations	4	4	—	4
Leaky manure pits	5	—	—	—

Nature of Defects or Nuisances discovered during 1940.					No. of Defects found	No. of Defects remedied by		Total No. of Defects remedied
						Informal action	Formal action	
BAKEHOUSES:								
Dirty floors ...	...	...	...	...	2	2	—	2
Dirty bakehouses ...	...	...	...	...	3	3	—	3
Accumulations ...	...	...	...	...	1	1	—	1
SLAUGHTERHOUSES:								
Insufficient water supply ...	...	...	...	...	1	—	—	—
Dirty slaughterhouses ...	...	...	...	...	9	7	—	7
Dirty fasting pens ...	...	...	...	...	8	16	—	16
Defective brickwork joints in walls ...	...	...	...	...	3	—	—	—
Accumulations ...	...	...	...	...	6	5	—	5
Defective spouting ...	...	...	...	...	4	—	—	—
Slaughterhouse woodwork requires painting	...	...	...	...	—	1	—	1
Defective doors ...	...	...	...	...	8	1	—	1
Defective roofs ...	...	...	...	...	2	—	—	—
Defective floors ...	...	...	...	...	1	—	—	—
Defective windows ...	...	...	...	...	4	—	—	—
Burst service pipes ...	...	...	...	...	1	2	—	2
Insufficient lighting and ventilation ...	...	...	...	...	1	—	—	—
STABLES AND ANIMALS:								
Accumulations of manure ...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Dirty stables ...	...	...	...	...	2	2	—	2
FOOD STORES:								
Dirty food stores and refrigerators ...	...	...	...	...	1	5	—	5
Defective floors ...	...	...	...	...	—	1	—	1
Defective roofs ...	...	...	...	...	—	1	—	1
Defective ceilings ...	...	...	...	...	—	3	—	3
Obstructed and defective drains ...	...	...	...	...	—	1	—	1
Defective W.C. seats ...	...	...	...	...	—	1	—	1
Defective flushing cisterns ...	...	...	...	...	—	1	—	1
Accumulations ...	...	...	...	...	2	2	—	2
Paraffin and firewood kept in ...	...	...	...	...	—	1	—	1
Contravention of Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Section 13 ...	...	...	...	...	—	4	—	4
Dirty yard areas ...	...	...	...	...	1	—	—	—

Nature of Defects or Nuisances discovered during 1940.					No. of Defects found	No. of Defects remedied by		Total No. of Defects remedied
						Informal action	Formal action	
Defective bins	...	...	...	...	—	2	—	2
Insufficient W.C. and drainage	...	...	...	...	—	2	—	2
External and internal painting required	...	...	...	...	—	1	—	1
Insufficient ventilation	...	...	...	...	—	1	—	1
DAIRIES:								
Dirty walls and ceilings	...	...	...	...	1	2	—	2
SMOKE NUISANCES	...	...	...	...	4	—	—	—
CINEMAS	...	...	...	...	—	1	—	1
PETROLEUM STORES:								
Defective covers on tanks	...	...	...	...	1	1	—	1
Insufficient or obstructed ventilation pipes	...	...	...	...	3	2	—	2
COWSHEDS:								
Accumulation of manure	...	...	...	...	4	5	—	5
Dirty walls and ceiling	...	...	...	...	8	7	—	7
Dirty milking stools	...	...	...	...	3	3	—	3
Insufficient drainage and obstructed drains	...	...	...	...	—	1	—	1
VAN DWELLINGS:								
No water supply	...	...	...	...	8	8	—	8
No drainage	...	...	...	...	8	8	—	8
No refuse receptacles and no sanitary conveniences	...	...	...	...	8	8	—	8
Occupation of land for camping purposes without licence from Local Authority	...	...	...	...	1	1	—	1
WATERCOURSES: Polluted	...	...	...	...	1	—	—	—
SCHOOLS:								
Verminous—Rats	...	...	...	...	—	1	—	1
Crickets	...	...	...	...	—	2	—	2

B. THE NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED DURING THE YEAR 1940.

(Distinguishing Statutory from Informal).

The number of :—

INFORMAL NOTICES on the books, 31st December, 1939	388
FORMAL NOTICES on the books 31st December, 1939	153
INFORMAL NOTICES SERVED DURING THE YEAR 1940	574
INFORMAL NOTICES SERVED DURING THE YEAR 1940, re Shops Act	16
FORMAL NOTICES served during the year ...	16
	—— 1147

C. THE RESULT OF THE SERVICE OF SUCH NOTICES.

INFORMAL NOTICES complied with in 1940, which were outstanding 31st December, 1939	238
INFORMAL NOTICES complied with in 1940, which were served during the year	471
INFORMAL NOTICES complied with in 1940, which were served during the year (re Shops Act)	16
FORMAL NOTICES complied with in 1940, which were outstanding 31st December, 1939 ...	49
FORMAL NOTICES complied with in 1940, which were served during the year	13
	—— 787
TOTAL NUMBER OF NOTICES on the books 31st December, 1940 (For analysis below) :	
Formal	107
Informal	253
	—— 360

COMPLAINTS.

Complaints of a general character were received during the year, numbering 341.

CANAL BOATS.

Two canal boats have been inspected during the year.

OUTWORKERS.

During the year, 24 lists have been received containing 161 names. 11 reminders were sent out to employers.

(IV). SHOPS.

The Shops Act in its entirety is carried out by the Sanitary Staff and the following activity is recorded:—

Shops inspected	...	...	4	Revisits	...	...	7
No. found defective	...	...	3				
No. of Notices served	...	16		(This includes for serving after hours).			
No. of Notices complied with	16			(This includes notices from previous year).			

Nature of Defects discovered especially relating to Vent. Temp. and San. Conveniences.	No. of defects found	No. of defects remedied
Insufficient washing facilities	1	1
Dirty Water Closets	1	1
Defective and insufficient Water Closets ...	1	1

No. of written warnings given 12

(V). CAMPING SITES.

There are no camping sites in the area and no licences have been granted.

(VI). SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No action in this connection has been taken this year.

(VII). SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

- An open-air swimming bath is owned by the Council and is situated at Haden Hill Park.
- There are no privately owned swimming pools in the district to which the public are admitted.

(VIII). ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

1. (a) (I) Council houses infested	...	...	...	43
(b) (1) Other houses infested	...	...	...	43
				— 86
(a) (I) Council houses disinfested	...	...	...	43
(b) (II) Other houses disinfested	...	...	...	43
				— 86
2. Houses are disinfested by spraying with Zaldecide and fumigated with Cimex. New houses are gassed with Hydro-Cyanide where possible.				
3. The work of gassing by Cyanide in houses is done by Contractors.				
4. Eight van loads of furniture, etc., representing 10 houses, were removed and gassed with Cimex.				

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:—				
(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	399
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	2186
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	...	...	...	—
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	—
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	—
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	332
2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notices:—				
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	...	...	...	496

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs ...	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal Notices:	
(a) By Owners ...	11
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ...	—
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	21
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal Notices:	
(a) By Owners ...	18
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ...	—
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	—

4. Housing Act, 1936—Part VI—Overcrowding:—

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ...	295
(2) Number of families dwelling therein ...	332
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein ...	1254
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ...	—
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ...	—
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	—

In addition to the above, Notices were served on properties in respect of defective dustbins as follows:—

Preliminary Notices served ...	325
Preliminary Notices complied with ...	320
Legal Notices served ...	2
Legal Notices complied with by the Owner ...	2
Legal Notices complied with by the Local Authority ...	—

The following is the position of the individual Demolitions and Clearance Areas up to date.

Year.	Clearance Areas :—		Individual Demolitions.	Closing Orders.	Agreements made not to re-let after vacation.
	No. of Areas.	No. of houses confirmed.			
1931-1939	85	820	339	18	17

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

There are 13 cowkeepers in the district occupying 26 cowsheds. The approximate number of milch cows is 153. There are two bottling establishments for sterilised milk and also one for pasteurised milk.

No. of Retail Purveyors of Milk on Register, 31st December, 1940	299
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

No. of Wholesale Traders and Producers on Register, 31st December, 1940	24
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

No. of Pasteurising Licences granted	1
--------------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Supplementary Licences granted:—

Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	4
Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	8
Accredited	...	...	...	...	...	5

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

At the beginning of the year there were 19 slaughterhouses in the district. In the early spring, slaughtering ceased and became Government controlled. Pigs are being dressed for Government distribution at one slaughterhouse at Cradley Heath.

The following animals slaughtered in the district have been inspected during the year:—

Cattle, excluding cows	...	...	...	144
Cows	...	...	...	104
Calves	...	...	...	7
Sheep and lambs	...	...	...	831
Pigs	...	...	...	2172
Goats	...	...	...	4

The undermentioned meat and food was condemned and destroyed during the year:—

Meat:	Weight (lbs.)
Beasts carcasses	498
Parts of carcases	120
Beasts' heads	267
Lungs	474
Livers	281
Kidneys	3
Hearts	11
Spleens	5
Offals	951
Foetuses	435
Sheeps' Lungs	10
Sheeps' Livers	100
Sheeps' Offal	158
Pigs' Carcasses	180
Pigs' heads	367
Pigs' Lungs	430
Pigs' Plucks	229
Pigs' Livers	121
Pigs' Hearts	78
Pigs' Offal	15

Other Foods:	Weight (lbs.)
Bacon	6½
Butter	21
Frozen Mutton	490
Herrings	49
Pressed Ox Tongue	6
Beef Sausages	72
Pork Sausages	18
Fish Cakes	30

MEAT KILLED IN THE DISTRICT and condemned during the year:—

4,733 lbs. = 2 tons 2 cwts. 29 lbs.

Total amount of meat and other foods condemned during the year:—

2 tons 8 cwts. 1 qr. 21½ lbs.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

SMALL POX.

No case occurred during the year.

DIPHTHERIA..

29 cases were notified as against 41 last year. The number of deaths was 5.

SCARLET FEVER.

95 cases were notified during the year as compared with 54 in 1939. There were no deaths from this disease.

ENTERIC FEVER (including Paratyphoid).

No case occurred in the district in 1940.

PNEUMONIA.

46 cases were notified with 33 deaths.

ERYSIPELAS.

17 cases were notified.

MEASLES.

There were no deaths caused by measles in 1940.

WHOOPIING COUGH.

There was 1 death from Whooping Cough in 1940.

CANCER.

During 1940 there were 59 deaths from cancer and malignant disease as compared with 38 in 1939.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Two cases were notified during 1940, one of which was admitted to hospital.

TUBERCULOSIS.

There were 16 deaths from Tuberculosis of the respiratory system and 2 deaths from other Tuberculosis Diseases during 1940.

The Health Visitors pay domiciliary visits and during the year 1940, 58 visits and 417 re-visits were so paid.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION.

This is carried out under the supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, and particulars of the work are contained earlier in the report.

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

I. ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION.

(a) Age Groups of Children Inspected.

Routine medical inspections were carried out as far as possible during the year and most school departments were visited for this purpose. The children examined were entrants, intermediates and leavers, i.e., as soon as possible after starting school, at the age of eight, and at the age of twelve.

All children found to be defective were re-examined unless examined in one of the code groups.

(b) The Board of Education's Schedule of Medical Inspection was used. The statistical particulars will be found in the tables at the end of the report.

II. FINDINGS OF ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION.

Of the 1,625 children inspected at the Schools, 696 were found to require treatment, i.e., 42.83%. The percentage in the three age groups was approximately as follows:—

Entrants	...	...	59.91%
Intermediates	...	...	43.84%
Leavers	...	...	27.66%

This figure does not include children requiring treatment for malnutrition, uncleanliness or dental defects.

(a) Uncleanliness.

As might be expected, the majority of children inspected were found to be in a cleanly condition.

Vermin surveys were undertaken at intervals throughout the year in all the schools in the Borough. By reference to Table V, group 11, it will be seen that 14,392 examinations (16,034 in 1939) were carried out during the year and that 643 individual children (695 in 1939) were found to be verminous.

The following table shows the extent of uncleanliness in the various schools throughout the Borough:—

School	Average No. of children examined at each survey	Percentage unclean
Cradley Heath Senior Boys'	132	—
Cradley Heath Senior Girls'	190	6.84
Cradley Heath Infants'	244	2.46
Corngreaves Junior Boys'	213	.16
Corngreaves Junior Girls'	225	5.33
Corngreaves Infants'	168	3.57
Reddal Hill Infants'	112	6.25

School			Average No. of children examined at each survey	Percentage unclean
Macefields Senior Boys	...	...	117	.85
Macefields Senior Girls'	...	...	134	19.4
Old Hill Junior Mixed	...	...	306	10.78
Old Hill Infants'	...	...	126	6.35
Rowley Regis Central Mixed	...	...	234	1.7
Wright's Lane Infants'	...	...	202	10.4
Blackheath Junior Mixed	...	...	404	4.21
Blackheath Infants'	...	...	307	7.49
Beeches Road Junior Mixed	...	...	243	5.35
Beeches Road Infants'	...	...	182	5.49
Rowley Regis Senior Boys'	...	...	300	.67
Siviter's Lane Senior Girls'	...	...	285	14.38
Rowley Hall Infants'	...	...	293	9.56
Doulton Road Junior Mixed	...	...	252	5.95
Knowle Infants'	...	...	—	—
Tividale Mixed	...	...	—	—
Tividale Infants'	...	...	94	—
City Road Junior Mixed	...	...	325	10.46

(b) **Nutrition.**

By reference to Table II it will be seen that of 1,625 children examined during the year, 270 were reported as being of excellent nutrition, 879 normal, 417 slightly sub-normal and 59 bad.

(c) **Visual Defects and External Eye Diseases.**

All cases where at medical inspection the vision is found to be worse than 6/9, 6/9 are referred to the Ophthalmic Surgeon for special examination. Cases with even so good a vision as 6/6, 6/9 are referred if there are any symptoms pointing to eye strain. External eye diseases are generally treated at the Minor Ailments Clinic, but, if necessary, are referred to the Ophthalmic Clinic.

(d) **Nose and Throat Defects.**

Cases of Chronic Tonsilitis and Adenoids forms the bulk of defects under this heading. 214 cases were referred for operative treatment, and 87 cases were referred for observation. Other conditions of the nose and throat requiring treatment were referred to private practitioners.

(e) **Ear Disease and Defective Hearing.**

All cases are first referred to the Minor Ailments Clinic. Chronic or difficult cases are then referred to the Aural Clinic for further examination and treatment. There is a tendency on the part of some parents to regard running ears as a trivial defect with the result that nothing is done and the condition is allowed to become chronic. It cannot be too strongly emphasised that all cases of running ears should have treatment until the condition is cured.

(f) **Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.**

Four cases were found to be requiring treatment. These are mainly cases of faulty posture and could, to a great extent, be prevented by providing proper desks and seats. The desks and seats should be made to fit the child and not vice versa.

(g) **Heart Disease and Rheumatism.**

Cases of heart disease and rheumatism are referred to private medical practitioners for treatment, and in the intervals between periods of treatment are kept under observation at the Clinics.

(h) **Tuberculosis.**

Any cases of Tuberculosis—definite or suspected, discovered at Routine Medical Inspection—are referred by the School Medical Officer to the Tuberculosis Officer for examination and, if necessary, treatment.

(i) **Dental Defects.**

All the children are regularly inspected by the School Dental Officer so that dental defects discovered at Routine Medical Inspection are not recorded. Nevertheless, if the parents of children suffering from dental defects are present, opportunity is taken to point out the need for treatment and to urge them to give their consent to such treatment as the School Dental Officer may advise on the occasion of his next visit.

(j) **Other Defects and Diseases.**

Cases of other defects or diseases found to be in need of treatment are referred to private medical practitioners.

III. FOLLOWING UP.

All children found to be suffering from defects are re-examined at intervals by the School Medical Officers—in addition, visits are paid to the homes of the children by the School Nurses. The following figures show the amount of work carried out:—

Number of individual children attending clinics	...	547
Number of attendances made by children	... ..	1116
Number of primary visits by School Nurses to homes		1057
Number of re-visits by School Nurses	... ..	94
Number of attendances by Nurses at School Clinics	...	493

IV. ARRANGEMENT FOR TREATMENT.

With the sanction of the Board of Education, Grant-aided schemes for necessitous cases have been developed, and the treatment of the following conditions is provided by the Education Committee:—

Minor ailments, errors of refraction (including provision of spectacles), enlarged tonsils and adenoids, orthopaedic defects, dental defects, X-ray treatment of ringworm, and ear defects. School Clinics are held as follows:—

- (1) MACE STREET, OLD HILL: For Schools in Cradley Heath Ward and Old Hill Ward, at 9 a.m. on Thursdays.
- (2) CARLYLE ROAD, ROWLEY REGIS: For Schools in Blackheath and Rowley Regis Wards, at 9.30 a.m. on Monday.
- (3) PUBLIC OFFICES, DUDLEY ROAD, TIVIDALE: For Schools in Tividale Ward, at 9.30 a.m. on Monday.
- (4) KNOWLE INFANTS' SCHOOL, DUDLEY RD., SPRINGFIELD: An Infant Welfare Centre is held on Thursday afternoons and a certain number of school children have to be seen as it is impossible to send small children from this area to a distant Clinic.

(a) **Uncleanliness.**

Education propaganda is carried on by means of the distribution of leaflets to parents on the subject of cleanliness.

Combs are provided at the Clinics for loan to parents for the treatment of children with verminous heads.

(b) **Minor Ailments and Diseases of the Skin.**

The number of minor ailments treated during the year at Clinics was 163. Most of the cases were skin conditions, especially impetigo and septic sores, otorrhoea, blepharitis and trivial injuries, which would not have received treatment from private doctors had the Clinics not been in existence.

Most of the ordinary skin diseases are dealt with at the Minor Ailments Clinics, with very successful results, but the Education Committee has an arrangement with the Birmingham Skin Hospital for treatment of difficult cases.

An arrangement exists by which X-ray treatment of ringworm can be given at this Hospital.

Cases of otorrhoea resistant to ordinary treatment are referred to the Aural Clinic.

(c) **Visual Defects and External Eye Disease.**

Ophthalmic Clinics were held at Carlyle Road Clinic, Mace Street Clinic and Tividale Clinic.

Many minor cases of external eye disease were treated at the Minor Ailments Clinics, but if they did not clear up within a short period they were referred to the Ophthalmic Clinic for further examination.

293 cases were examined during the year by Dr. A. M. Duff, the Authority's Ophthalmic Surgeon. They were classified as follows:—

NEW CASES.						
Hypermetropia	...	...	...	...	...	14
Hypermetropic Astigmatism			...	...	...	113
Mixed Astigmatism		...	...	...	...	15
Myopia	...	...	...	...	...	16
Myopic Astigmatism		...	...	...	...	35
Squint	...	...	...	...	...	42
High Myopia	...	...	...	...	...	2
Corneal Opacities	...	...	...	...	...	—
Nystagmus	...	...	...	...	...	—
Ptosis	...	...	...	...	...	—
Congenital Defects	...	...	...	...	...	—
Other	...	...	...	...	...	1
						238

RE-EXAMINATIONS.						
Hypermetropia	...	...	...	...	...	10
Hypermetropic Astigmatism			...	...	...	8
Mixed Astigmatism	...	...	...	...	...	1
Myopia	...	...	...	...	...	7
Myopic Astigmatism		...	...	...	...	4
Squint	...	...	...	...	...	12
High Myopia	...	...	...	...	...	—
Corneal Opacities	...	...	...	...	...	—
Nystagmus	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ptosis	...	...	...	...	...	—
Congenital Defects	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other Defects	...	...	...	...	...	11
						55

(d) **Nose and Throat Defects.**

106 cases of enlarged tonsils and adenoids received operative treatment under the Authority's scheme compared with 124 last year. In addition, 2 cases—recommended through the School Medical Service—had operations; the cost of these was borne by certain firms in the Borough. Of the 114 cases, in 56 cases the operation was performed at the Ear and Throat Hospital, and in the other 58 cases at the Children's Hospital. Non-operative cases of nose and throat defects are referred to private medical practitioners.

(e) **Ear Disease and Defective Hearing.**

An Aural Clinic is held at Carlyle Road, Rowley Regis, and during the year eleven sessions have been held, at which 96 children have received treatment and 136 attendances were made.

(f) **Dental Defects.**

Every effort is made at every possible opportunity to stress to parents and children alike the importance of a clean mouth. Constant dental supervision is necessary to ensure this and the teeth should be inspected every six months and any necessary treatment carried out.

(g) **Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.**

Treatment is provided at the Royal Cripples' Hospital and at the "Woodlands" Open-air Hospital and School, Birmingham.

The number of school children treated under the Authority's Scheme was 11. Nine received treatment as out-patients, and only one case received treatment as an in-patient; whilst one case received treatment as both in-patient and out-patient. The result of treatment of these defects has been very good.

An arrangement exists between the Education Committee and the Dudley Education Committee by which massage and exercises can be given to children from this Borough at "The Firs," Dudley, the cost being the same as at the Royal Cripples' Hospital, Birmingham. During the year four cases received treatment at Dudley. This arrangement is much more convenient for residents in certain parts of the area, and saves the Education Committee a certain amount of expense in travelling fares for necessitous cases.

Three of the cases treated at "The Firs," Dudley, were also treated as out-patients at the Royal Cripples' Hospital.

Appliances were supplied during the year in 8 cases.

The School Nurses visit the cases which have ceased to attend hospital before their treatment has been completed and these visits often stimulate the parents to persevere in attendance.

(h) **Heart Disease and Rheumatism.**

These cases are referred to private medical practitioners for treatment.

Rheumatic children are kept under regular observation at the School Clinics, but are referred to their private medical practitioners for treatment.

(i) **Tuberculosis.**

As stated earlier in the Report, cases are referred for diagnosis and treatment to the Dudley Tuberculosis Dispensary of the Staffordshire, Wolverhampton and Dudley Joint Tuberculosis Committee. The Tuberculosis Officer indicates if exclusion from school is desirable, and, if so, for what length of time. This exclusion is then confirmed by the School Medical Officer. Sanatorium treatment is also arranged by the Joint Committee.

(j) **Other Defects and Diseases.**

Most of the defects are treated by private medical practitioners and cases of acute disease, when seen at the School Clinics, are referred at once to private medical practitioners.

V. INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

(a) **Ascertainment.**

In addition to the cases compulsorily notifiable, a weekly report is made by the Head Teachers of the non-notifiable infectious diseases, such as measles, whooping-cough and chicken-pox, and home visits are made by the nurses, advice being given on general hygiene and on the prevention of infection.

The Head Teachers made the following reports during the year 1940, as compared with 1939:—

	1940	1939
Measles	89	135
Mumps	135	114
Chicken-pox	39	103
Scarlet Fever	18	7
Whooping Cough	101	38
Diphtheria	8	3
German Measles	30	—

These weekly reports by the Head Teachers are valuable information as to the prevalence of non-notifiable diseases. If it were not for them the only information available would be the return of deaths from the diseases in question.

(b) **Prevention of Infectious Disease.**

The exclusion of children follows strictly on the lines set forth in the circular of the Board of Education and the Ministry of Health. The particulars of children excluded are forwarded to the Head Teachers and the School Attendance Officers on the day of exclusion. As far as is practicable, co-operation has been arranged with the Sunday Schools, and the Sanitary Inspector supplies lists of contacts.

(c) **Disinfection.**

Each house in which a case of notifiable infectious disease is reported is visited by a Sanitary Inspector; instructions are given, disinfectants supplied and fumigation of clothing carried out.

(d) **Diphtheria Immunisation.**

Facilities were available for school children to be immunised against Diphtheria at the School Clinics, but unfortunately, very few children availed themselves of these.

(e) **School Closure.**

No action has been found necessary, but individual children are excluded as required.

(f) **Hospital Treatment.**

Cases requiring hospital treatment are removed to Hayley Green Hospital of the North Worcestershire Joint Isolation Hospital Committee and the Stallings Lane Hospital, Kingswinford.

VI. OPEN-AIR EDUCATION.

(a) **Playground Classes.**

In the summer months open-air classes are held in Haden Hill Park, with very good results.

(b) **Open-air Classrooms in Public Elementary Schools.**

A covered playground in which classes could be held is provided at the new Rowley Regis Seniors Boys' School.

VII. PROVISION OF MEALS.

The Authority's Scheme for the provision of free milk meals, which came into force in 1932, is still in operation. Most of the children receiving free milk show definite benefit.

A Table is given below showing for each month up to October the number of individual children fed, and the total number of milk meals supplied. Unfortunately, the supply of milk to schools had to be discontinued for the last two months of the year owing to shortage of supplies and difficulties in connection with transport:—

Month				Individual Children Fed	Total Number of Milk Meals Supplied
January	...	...	...	390	10,214
February	...	...	...	317	8,403
March	...	...	...	367	9,295
April	...	...	...	401	14,873
May	...	...	...	391	15,633
June	...	...	...	393	15,233
July	...	...	...	396	15,602
August	...	...	...	410	13,989
September	...	...	...	385	4,544
October	...	...	...	412	17,678

VIII. CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS.

The following Table gives the percentage of the examinations at which a parent or relative attended:—

			Entrants	Intermediates	Leavers
1939	...	...	71.25%	68.25%	31.85%
1940	...	...	57.54%	66.86%	16.827%

The attendance of a parent is extremely valuable, not only does it enable defects and facilities for their treatment to be pointed out, but it also enables the medical inspector to obtain information which is of considerable value to him in forming a correct estimate of the child's health.

IX. CO-OPERATION OF TEACHERS.

The Head Teachers and Staffs of the Schools have been most helpful in making arrangements for medical inspection.

X. CO-OPERATION OF SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICERS.

Many children were referred to the Clinics by the School Attendance Officers during the year for examination. The reports of the School Attendance Officers on absentees afford information of many cases of non-notifiable infectious diseases. As has been mentioned in another part of the report, all exclusions are reported on the same day to the School Attendance Officers.

XI. CO-OPERATION OF VOLUNTARY BODIES.

(a) National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

Suitable cases have been referred to Inspector Pine, whose efforts have often produced good results.

(b) Nursing Associations.

Three exist in the district at Old Hill and Cradley Heath; at Blackheath and Rowley Regis and at Tividale, and do excellent work.

XII. BLIND, DEAF, DEFECTIVE AND EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.

(a) Ascertainment.

The School Nurses and the School Attendance Officers co-operate in this matter, cases being referred to the School Clinics. Assistance has been rendered by the Staffordshire Association for Mental Welfare and the Secretary's Report will be found below:—

(b) Arrangements made for Supervision of Mentally Defective Children not in Special Schools.

All such children are supervised and routine visits are made by the School Nurses and School Attendance Officers. Occasional visits are also paid by Officials of the Staffordshire Association for Mental Welfare. The Occupation Centre at Old Hill, although primarily for ineducable defectives, also dealt with a few educable cases which are for some reason unsuitable for a Public Elementary School.

(c) Staffordshire Association for Mental Welfare.

“ Report on Work carried out for the Rowley Regis Education Committee during 1940.

“ During 1940 a further year of regular visiting in the homes of feeble-minded children in Rowley Regis has been carried out by the Association. 120 domiciliary visits have been made and 36 interviews held on behalf of the children. In all 26 children have been on our books during the year, 7 being classified as educable in special schools, 2 have been specially reported to the School Medical Officer for examination. One girl has been notified to the County Council on leaving a special residential school. She will be regularly visited and will have the opportunity of further training on her return home.

Parents have appreciated the help that is given through home visits from a trained and sympathetic worker; for the most part they do provide adequate physical care for their defective children but there are cases where the defective is over-protected and cannot develop as far as he might because he is treated too much as a child, whilst in other cases the achievements of a normal child are expected from the defective and disharmony must result if understanding is not achieved. The work of the visitor demands great patience, knowledge and untiring effort, which is well worth while when it results in the child's progress through the co-operation of the parents and the help of the Education Committee.

11 children from the area attend the Old Hill Occupation Centre provided by the County Council, where they receive daily training suited to their mentality, under Mrs. Ashbourne and her staff.

“ We are glad that it has been possible to keep the Centre open as suitable protection against air-raids is available in the building. The work receives great encouragement and help from members of the Old Hill Centre Committee, who do all they can to make life happy for the children.

“ It is a matter of much concern to the Association that pressure of other work has prevented Education Committees from fully carrying out the duty of examining all backward children and ascertaining which are feeble-minded and which suitable for notification. Notification in this connection involves the transfer of responsibility for a child from the Education Committee to the County Council and opens the door for the defective to training at a Centre; statutory supervision; and to institutional care if this is necessary. Notification has served a useful purpose in the national emergency, as it has exempted defectives thus dealt with from registering for services with the Forces, thus avoiding clogging the wheels of the war machine and leaving the defective free to serve if he is capable on the land or in other useful work. Those who escaped the net of notification have in some cases joined up, only to be discharged after a period of failure.

“ In the history of every defective the fact that suitable training has, or has not been provided for him in his school years, determines in great measure his ability in after life to adapt himself to his social environment, and for this reason, it will be of the greatest importance when planning for social reconstruction after the war that provision shall be made for the careful assessment of the abilities of the several groups of children in the school population, possibly with the aid of educational psychologists who are trained for the work, and that arrangements be made for the right training of each group within the orbit of the elementary school. The Report of the Feversham Committee will be a useful guide in such planning.

“ In concluding this brief report, we would like to express our appreciation of the continued co-operation of the Rowley Regis Education Committee with the Association through the changes in its constitution effected in 1940. Such co-operation has preserved the unity of the work the Association has been carrying out in the county for the last twenty years, and we are grateful for the support of the Committee in securing this.”

F. H. TOSH,
Secretary, Staffs. Association for Mental Welfare.

(d) **Day Open-air Schools.**

Rowley Regis does not possess an open-air school.

XIII. PARENTS' PAYMENTS.

Parents, according to an approved scale of income, contribute towards the cost of treatment at the Children's Hospital and the Ear and Throat Hospital, Birmingham.

Cases treated at the Minor Ailments Clinics pay a small charge for ointment, dressings, etc.

XIV. HEALTH EDUCATION.

Systematic instruction in hygiene is given in the majority of the schools, whilst in other Departments, incidental references are made in the course of the general work.

The Health and Cleanliness Council supplied literature which was distributed to the children in the schools.

XV. SPECIAL ENQUIRIES.

No special enquiries have been made.

TABLE I.
RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Year ended 31st December, 1940.

A—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups:—

Entrants	...	...	...	...	...	...	424
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	...	682
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	...	517
							1623
							2
							1625

B—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections and Re-Inspections ... 1461

TABLE II.

**Classification of the Nutrition of Children inspected during the
Year in the Routine Age Groups up to 31st August, 1940.**

Age groups	Number of Children Inspected	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly subnormal)		D (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	424	45	10.61	206	48.59	137	32.31	36	8.49
Second Age-group	682	134	19.65	373	54.69	160	23.46	15	2.20
Third Age-group	517	91	17.60	298	57.64	120	23.21	8	1.55
Other Routine Inspections	2	—	—	2	100.00	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	1625	270	16.62	879	54.09	417	25.66	59	3.63

TABLE III.

Group I.—Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Table V).

Total number of defects treated or under treatment during
the year under the Authority's Scheme ... 163

Group II.—Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I).

Defect or Disease. (1)	No. of Defects dealt with		
	Under the Authority's Scheme. (2)	Other- wise. (3)	Total. (4)
Errors of Refraction (including squint).	288	—	288
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (ex- cluding those recorded in Group I.). ...	14	—	14
Total ...	302	—	302

	Under the Authority's Scheme	Other- wise	Total
Number of Children for whom Spectacles were			
(a) Prescribed	237	—	237
(b) Obtained	26	198	224

TABLE IV.

Dental Inspection and Treatment.

(1) Number of children who were—

(i) Inspected by the Dentist:

Aged:

Routine Age Groups	{	5 ...	631	}	Total ...	6403
		6 ...	729			
		7 ...	614			
		8 ...	781			
		9 ...	841			
		10 ...	647			
		11 ...	706			
		12 ...	723			
		13 ...	689			
		14 ...	42			

Specials	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	336
								<hr/>
Total Routine and Specials								6739
								<hr/>

(2) Number found to require treatment ... 5693

(3) Number actually treated ... 1821

(4) Attendances made by children for treatment ... 2371

(5) Half-days devoted to:—

Inspection	...	...	...	26				
Treatment	...	...	...	213				
				<hr/>	Total	...	239	

(6) Fillings:—

Permanent Teeth	...	...	604					
Temporary Teeth	...	...	84					
				<hr/>	Total	...	688	

TABLE IV.—continued.

(7)	Extractions:—				
	Permanent Teeth	...	...	763	
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	2914	
				—	Total ... 3677
(8)	Administrations of general anaesthetics for extractions				1181
(9)	Other operations:—				
	Permanent Teeth	...	...	20	
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	—
				—	Total ... 20

TABLE V.

Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions.

(i)	Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses	...	...	...	3
(ii)	Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses	...	...	...	14392
(iii)	Number of individual children found unclean			...	643
(iv)	Number of individual children cleansed under Section 87 (2) and (3) of the Education Act, 1921			...	—
(v)	Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken:—				
	(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	...	...		—
	(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws	...	...		—

TABLE VI.

BLIND CHILDREN.

Name	Age	Address	At a Public Elementary School	At another Institution.	At no School or Institution
Nil		—	—	—	—

DEAF CHILDREN.

Name	Age	Address	At a Public Elementary School	At another Institution	At no School or Institution
Nil	—	—	—	—	—

